



FACT SHEET

**HIMCO DUMP SUPERFUND SITE
Elkhart, Indiana
MAY 1992**

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



200067

The Himco Dump Superfund site, located near County Road 10/Bristol Ave. and the Nappanee Street Extension in Elkhart, Indiana, was first proposed for EPA's National Priorities List (commonly known as Superfund) in June 1988. Funds were authorized in September 1989 to begin a long-term Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study. A public meeting was held in Elkhart in July 1990, to introduce EPA's plans for investigation and study. Since then, extensive sampling and analyses have been conducted. Final results of the investigation and study are expected late this fall; results will then be made public in a fact sheet and a public meeting. An opportunity for the public to comment on proposed alternatives for cleaning up the site will be announced with a Proposed Plan fact sheet, expected early 1993. You will receive information on these planned activities as soon as it is available.

Recently, leachate was found in a test pit on the edge of the site near a residence. It was sampled and found to warrant further investigation because it contained toluene, a volatile organic compound, known to pose risks to human health.

Starting Thursday morning, May 7, EPA will perform a site assessment to determine the extent and amount of materials previously sampled, possible risks to human health, and to decide if a removal action is warranted. A removal action is designed to eliminate immediate threats to human health or the environment. It is generally a short-term action, to take care of a distinct and narrowly-defined problem. It does not take the place of the longer-term, more thorough study (and later remedial action (cleanup)), already ongoing at Himco Dump.

On May 7, site workers will sample leachate and do additional drilling to confirm existing data, and determine the source and movement of the contaminants. The assessment be conducted to show if ground water and surface water are being further contaminated by conditions at the site. Also, two residential wells will be sampled to determine whether contamination from the site has had an effect on these water supplies.

A decision on whether or not a removal action is warranted will be made by May 28. If EPA decides that

a removal action is necessary, the site's Potentially Responsible Parties will be asked to do the work and provide a work plan to EPA within 72 hours. If a work plan is not forthcoming, EPA will start work within 72 hours after that. It is anticipated that work would then begin by June 1 at the latest.

During the site assessment, and if a removal action is needed, safeguards to public health will be established and implemented. These will include air monitoring and engineering controls to contain a release of contaminated vapors, should any occur during site work. On-site workers will wear protective clothing and respiratory protection.

EPA personnel will be available at the site while workers are there. If nearby residents wish to ask questions or find out what is happening on the site, they may approach anyone outside the site boundaries and ask for Karen Martin, Community Relations Coordinator, or Bob Lance, Remedial Project Manager. Mary Elaine Gustafson, who will take over as Remedial Project Manager this month, will also be available. Also on site will be Paul Steadman, On-Scene Coordinator, who is in charge of removal actions, including this site assessment. See below for phone numbers and EPA's address.

For further information, you may contact the following people:

Karen Martin (PS-19J)
Community Relations
Coordinator
(312) 886-6128

Mary Elaine Gustafson (HSRL-6J)
Remedial Project Manager
(312) 886-6144

Toll free: (800) 621-8431 (9-4:30 central time)

Paul Steadman (HSE-5J)
On-Scene Coordinator (removal)
(312) 353-7615

U.S. EPA
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Site-related documents are available for review at the Elkhart Public Library, 300 S. 2nd St., and the Pierre Moran Branch Library, 2400 Benham Ave.

You may add your name to the Himco Dump Superfund site mailing list by filling out this form and mailing it to Karen Martin (PS-19J) at the address above. **PLEASE PRINT.**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ **AFFILIATION** _____